

lishing firm of New York, and it is this line that the office is now following up.

Once in Penitentiary.

That there are other victims of the woman's operations the police do not deny. Her record in Baltimore has developed the fact that for a similar offense in that city Miss Caspari served a five-year term in the Maryland Penitentiary.

One of the remarkable features of her associations with Mrs. James was that she freely discussed the penitentiary, and life within the institution. She spoke of the kind of food they had, the manner in which it was served, and many other subjects of such an intimate character that only a prisoner could know.

When Miss Caspari was arrested yesterday she did not have a cent. All efforts of the police since then to learn where she had a bank account, if any, have proved unavailing. On the floor of her room were found pieces of a draft for \$1,200. The draft was drawn on the Howard Bank and was made out in favor of Middendorf, Williams & Co., of Baltimore.

Agent for Publishers.

Miss Caspari came to Washington about two years ago. She first lived at the Woman's Christian Home, 1719 Thirteenth street northwest. To the other persons living in the home she represented that she was the Washington agent for a large New York publishing firm, who manufactured rare editions of famous authors. She had no money apparently while she lived there and it is said that she often went for days without food.

Later the "publishing" business began to decline and Miss Caspari began to buy new clothes. Then she moved to the home of a Mrs. Northern, 1623 Thirteenth street northwest, and may have lived with Miss Gemmill.

It was through Miss Gemmill that the arrest was made. She reported at headquarters how Miss Caspari had obtained \$600 from her, and when the story was repeated in the District Attorney's office, it was decided to issue a warrant charging Miss Caspari with grand larceny.

Miss Gemmill told the detectives that she was unable to understand why it was that she had given the woman money, and said that Miss Caspari had informed her that the book concern for whom she worked did not allow anybody to buy its stock except employees.

Promised Big Dividends.

She explained further that \$100 invested with the company would pay \$12 interest a year, \$200 would pay \$100 annually, and larger investments would pay much larger interest. On May 2 Miss Gemmill gave her \$200. After that she gave her various sums until the amount reached \$500.

For the last few weeks Miss Gemmill made a determined effort to recover some of the money she supposed had been invested with the book concern, she says. Miss Caspari told her there was \$1,200 due her and that she expected the check almost any day. Yesterday morning she gave Miss Gemmill a check for \$1,200 on the Lincoln National Bank. Miss Gemmill took the check to the bank and was informed that Miss Caspari had no account there.

A few minutes later Miss Gemmill met Miss Caspari on the street. Asked why she had given her a worthless check, Miss Caspari is said to have explained that it was necessary for her to accompany Miss Gemmill to the bank before they would pay over the money. Determined to force a settlement, Miss Gemmill consulted her attorney, Llewellyn Jordan, who is employed at the Treasury Department. Mr. Jordan advised her to lay the case before the police.

Miss Caspari Arrested.

Learning that Miss Caspari had an appointment with Dr. Jordan at 2 o'clock, Detective Bauer went to the Treasury Department. Dr. Jordan and the detective had a long talk with the woman before informing her that she was under arrest. Asked what she had done with the money, she asserted that it had been invested with the book concern, and that she had receipts showing that it had been forwarded to New York. She said she could not produce the receipts as they had been sent out of the city.

A further investigation by the detectives developed that Miss Caspari's operations for the last few months had been a case of borrow from Peter to pay Paul.

Worked "Quick Touch" Trick.

Mrs. M. E. James, who conducts a small store at 1728 Fourteenth street, told the detectives a pathetic story of how Miss Caspari had managed to get \$200 from her. The money represented the savings of years, and Miss Caspari told Mrs. James that she needed \$1,200. She said she was in urgent need of the money and must have it immediately. After some deliberation, Mrs. James gave her \$1. She paid the money back the following day.

A few days later, she rushed into the store and demanded \$25. She explained to Mrs. James that she had an opportunity to make \$50 in a few hours if she could only get \$25. Mrs. James told her she only had \$25, and she would pay the rest and refuse to give her the \$25. A few days later, however, she managed to get \$50 from Mrs. James on representations concerning the book company.

Mrs. James told the police she believed Miss Caspari must have been under a hypnotic influence, as she knew that she was doing something foolish in letting her have the money.

Gave Her \$2,525.

The person from whom Miss Caspari obtained the most money was Mrs. Thomas H. Robbins, who conducts an interval Mrs. Robbins gave her different sums amounting altogether to \$2,525. Pressed for interest on the investment, Miss Caspari, it is charged, took the money she obtained from Miss Gemmill, and during the months of May she gave Mrs. Robbins \$300.

Dr. Caspari, Miss Caspari's brother, came to Washington from Baltimore, and had a long talk with Inspector Boardman. Dr. Caspari believes that his sister is not mentally responsible, and that she should be in an asylum. He adds that her actions have never been of such a nature that the authorities have seen fit to adjudge her insane.

During the five years that she was confined in the Maryland penitentiary, he made repeated efforts to get some statement from her, but failed. She would tell him nothing about her unusual financial operations.

Calm at Police Office.

Miss Caspari was brought to headquarters from the house of detention this morning, and photographed, and measured. She appeared calm during the hour that she was being measured by the Bertillon system, and her finger prints taken.

Questioned by a Times reporter, she positively refused to make any statement. "I do not think the newspapers have any business printing anything about this. The truth is not out yet, and it may never come out. If it does, that is time enough to tell the story. I have absolutely nothing to say."

To the police she would make no statement, further than saying that she had done nothing wrong, and that there was no ground for arresting her.

Brother in Quandary.

"I do not know what I shall do about getting my sister out of jail," said Dr. Caspari. "If this had happened in Baltimore I would know just what to do, but over here it is different. I would

be in Baltimore and my sister would probably not consent to leave Washington. I would have no opportunity to watch her, and almost anything might happen."

"My sister is as much of a mystery to me as she is to everyone else. I have never been able to fathom her. If you search her trunk today you will find that she hasn't a cent. I feel certain that she has no money deposited in any bank. What she does with it is a mystery. It was the same way in Baltimore."

"Before the court she confessed to having obtained more than \$10,000, yet she would not tell what had become of it. She told me it was all invested, but she would not say where."

Dr. Caspari said he would be in Washington tomorrow, and that he would be taking with him the next few days.

Know Little About Her.

The women residents of the Women's Christian Home, at 1719 Thirteenth street northwest, know very little of Miss Caspari's affairs or her operations.

Miss Caspari went to the home upon her arrival in this city, and made arrangements to live there. All of the women stated today that she seemed to be cultured and refined and evidently of good family.

She had a marked personality and was always interesting and entertaining. Miss Catherine Best, who is at present superintendent of the home, and several of the women who have been there for some years, all said that Miss Caspari had never talked over any business proposition with them.

It was generally understood in Washington that she was traveling for some publishing firm handling an encyclopedia. They were greatly shocked, however, when they learned that she had been at one time a prisoner in Baltimore.

Miss Caspari's Charm

Described by Victim

"Magnetic" is the one word Miss Elizabeth W. Gemmill considers most apt in describing the personality of Miss Frances A. Caspari.

Magnetic eyes, a magnetic manner of address, and a magnetic business proposition were the principal attractions of this financial Clio, says Miss Gemmill, which led her to draw her little wealth, \$900, from the bank and use it in a speculation about which she knew nothing.

"I am almost crazy," said Miss Gemmill, rubbing her hands nervously on her temples. "I am almost crazy from the loss of this money. It is terrible to think that the little savings, so carefully watched during the long time they were gathered, should be thrown away suddenly."

Cautious Charmed Away.

"I don't know why I did it," she continued in a voice trembling with emotion. "I can't imagine why I should have let her have the money. Usually I am careful to a point of narrow-mindedness concerning money matters, but there was something, an indescribable something about Miss Caspari that charmed and fascinated me."

"Magnetism, personal magnetism of an intense and overpowering nature, describes the peculiar quality which won me over to the enterprise despite my better judgment. I was foolish not to make more inquiries concerning the woman's past, but she was so plausible, so pleasant, and so refined that I disliked the thought of offending her by appearing to doubt her."

As the thoughts of her experiences with Miss Caspari came pressing back upon her, Miss Gemmill sank back in her seat with a little inkling of the breath that told more eloquently than words of the terrible disappointment of losing the savings of years in a moment, and without the slightest premonition of ill.

"I refused her positively three times before I let her have the money," she murmured wearily. "I did not suppose after the first time that she would return and broach the subject again."

Sad to See Victim's Work.

"She was so kind and gentle. She said she was sorry that she was required to speak of her experience. I was keen and her wonderful eyes spoke words that her tongue could not utter. So I let her have the money. It was my belief in the woman that caused me to invest so heavily. She was clever and bright and well educated, one of the most refined and dangerous women I have ever met."

Met in Boarding House.

"I first met Miss Caspari while she was stopping at 1719 Thirteenth street. That was several months ago. The first evening of our acquaintance was passed in Mrs. Brown's boarding house on Corcoran street. I was sitting at supper when Miss Caspari was ushered in and introduced to me. She took a seat near me, and bowed delectfully. Subsequently she left her place at 1719 Thirteenth street, and took a room in my house. By this time I met her frequently at meal times."

"It was a long time after that first night at the Brown's supper table that

BETTER THAN GOLD

Food That Rebuilds Body and Brain.

"I owe a debt of gratitude to Grape-Nuts," writes a W. Va. young lady, "and I am glad of the opportunity to pay a little interest on it, although the debt itself I can never hope to remove."

A few years ago I broke down from over-work and improper food. I was then in a preparatory school and my fondest wish was to enter college the following year.

"But about the middle of the term my health failed and my brain refused to grapple with the subjects presented to it. Finally, my eyesight giving way, I was taken from the school, and sent to my grandparents in the country with orders not to open a book while I was there."

The dear old lady tried every way to console and nurse me back to health, but it looked like failure until the day she brought back from town a box, which, as she said, was for my health. It would have been of less value to me than the little golden-brown granules which actually contained it.

"I did not care about being experimented on at first, but that was before I had tasted Grape-Nuts for breakfast."

"Oh, it was too good to stop eating. And I never have stopped, for I still eat Grape-Nuts for breakfast."

"In the course of a few weeks I was back at school again, my health so entirely restored that I was almost a new person."

"I am now in my junior year at college, president of my class and expect to take an A. M. degree next year. My good health has continued and my eyes, having been strengthened by the Grape-Nuts for breakfast."

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she suggested I enter her proposed scheme. Surprised as I was I could not but listen to her. Then she began her real campaign, and in a thousand ways made herself pleasant and agreeable. She would sit and talk to me by the hour on my comparatively straightened financial condition, holding me with the charm of her conversation until I entered her project against my will."

Talked About Penitentiary.

Miss Caspari displayed her wonderful audacity when she insisted during her conversations with Mrs. M. E. James in discussing the workings and peculiarities of the Baltimore penitentiary.

Whether she was sent several years ago on a charge similar to the one now pending against her. She told Mrs. James of her experiences there, explaining that she was a newspaper woman and had visited the prison in the line of duty. She made a \$200 loan, all of which tended to enlarge Mrs. James' respect for her "niece."

"I always found Miss Caspari a pleasant and refined woman," she said this morning in a calm, stern tone, "and it was not until she was arrested that I knew her to be anything but a newspaper woman. She used to come into my store and buy little things and engage me in conversation. She was so unusually pleasant talker, and could converse with ease upon all subjects."

When she met me she used to tell me all about the Baltimore penitentiary. I wondered how she happened to know her to be anything but a newspaper woman. She was a newspaper woman, and that she had visited the place in her work."

"One day she started me by telling me exactly what they had to eat in a penitentiary, and at other times she would display an unbelievable familiarity with the rules and regulations for the inmates. I did not suspect anything, and when I let her have the \$200 I had the highest confidence in her."

So far as can be learned, it is believed that Miss Caspari told her penitentiary story to Mrs. James alone.

Mrs. T. H. Robbins Away;

Apparently Has Means

Mrs. Thomas H. Robbins, who, the police say, lost \$2,500 by Miss Caspari, left several weeks ago for her summer home at Friendly Postoffice, Prince George's county, Md.

With her husband, she lives at 1367-A Massachusetts avenue southeast. Mr. Robbins is in Washington frequently, but he, too, spends most of his time at the country place.

Mr. and Mrs. Robbins are an aged couple, and they use a more or less exclusive life, having but few visitors. Mrs. Robbins became acquainted with Miss Caspari through the introduction of Mrs. Robbins, who is a considerable means. Mr. Robbins is seventy years old and has retired from business.

Miss Caspari's Crimes

Shocked All Baltimore

BALTIMORE, July 20.—Miss Caspari was arrested in Baltimore September 1930, on the charge of securing \$800 from Mrs. Bertha Greer and Miss Doretta C. Schilling through pretenses. Two days before, she had been dismissed by

the school board from her position as teacher of German in the Western High School. She was convicted in the criminal court of Baltimore, February 7, 1931, after a trial which aroused more interest here than any case of the last decade, and was sentenced to serve five years in the penitentiary.

For twenty-two years Miss Caspari had been a teacher in the public schools of Baltimore. She had been a prominent member of always Independent Christian Church, and as secretary of the Sunday school had handled its funds. Judge Morris, of the United States Court, testified at her trial that her reputation was of the very best, that she was trusted and confided in by all who knew her.

Admitted Getting \$71,000.

Miss Caspari herself testified at the trial that \$71,000 belonging to Baltimoreans had been invested in two principal concerns with which she said she was connected, the New York and Southern Christmas and Easter Leaflet Company, and the Northern and Western Kindergarten Company of Boston. Neither of these concerns, so far as afterward could be proved, had ever existed.

The first, Miss Caspari told the friends who were induced to part with their money, issued leaflets for Christmas and Easter services in the churches, and always paid from 8 to 10 per cent on the money advanced. She said she had advanced how much interest it would pay because it sold its leaflets through contractors and the Boston company sold kindergarten supplies in the West, and paid 25 per cent annually on its stock.

School teachers with the dozens, fellow church members and personal friends of Miss Caspari gave up their money upon her representations, as if they were connected with the companies. She gave them roughly typewritten certificates of ownership of stock in return.

Her lawyer and her brother said in court that she would tell them no more than she told herself in open court.

Three Theories About Her.

There were three theories as to her actions. One that she had hidden the

money and was willing to spend a term in prison in order to enjoy it afterward. One was that she was controlled by some other person whom she shielded faithfully. The other was that she was insane.

She kept silence until the prison walls closed upon her, always professing her belief that the money belonged to her. She would all be paid back to the investors. "I don't mind going to the penitentiary," she said. "All I want is to pay the money back."

Miss Caspari never lived extravagantly, or dressed so, she was quiet and refined in her manners, and the mystery regarding the disposition of the great sums she collected has not been solved to this day.

STRIKER IS KILLED

AT SHERIFFS' FIRE

Three Deputies Also Reported Injured During Blue Creek Mining Disturbance.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 21.—Information was received that the sheriff's office at noon that one strike was killed and three deputy sheriffs injured in a clash at Johns, a mining town in the Blue Creek region.

A special train with forty soldiers was rushed to the scene.

Several hundred strikers were marching upon the property of the Tennessee Company when deputies ordered them to halt. The strikers are said to have fired a volley of shots, and three deputies fell. The deputies in turn fired, and one man was said to have been killed outright.

It was reported that the strikers were armed with shotguns and revolvers. The strikers are said to have killed outright.

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